

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

It is respectfully requested that the claims be amended without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

### **LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1. (previously presented) A method for decreasing airway hyperresponsiveness or airway inflammation in an animal, comprising administering to said animal an antisense compound 13 to 30 nucleobases in length, wherein the compound is targeted to nucleotides 562 to 648; 659 to 688; or 1194 to 1277 of SEQ ID NO. 1; or to nucleotides 3722 to 3747 of SEQ ID NO. 127.
- 2-7. (canceled).
8. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the antisense compound comprises an oligonucleotide.
9. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the antisense compound comprises a chimeric oligonucleotide.
10. (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the antisense compound is a single-stranded or double-stranded compound.
- 11-13. (canceled)
14. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the antisense compound is a chemically modified compound.
15. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the antisense compound comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

16. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

17. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the antisense compound comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

18. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl moiety.

19. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the antisense compound comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

20. (original) The method of claim 19 wherein modified nucleobase is a 5-methyl cytosine.

21-24. (canceled).

25. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said antisense compound is administered intranasally, intrapulmonarily or intratracheally.

26-28. (canceled).

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein decreasing airway inflammation comprises modulating cytokine release into the airway of an animal.

30. (canceled).

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein decreasing airway inflammation comprises reducing airway mucus production in an animal.

32-33. (canceled).

34. (currently amended) An antisense compound 13 to 30 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding a p38 $\alpha$  mitogen-activated protein kinase, wherein said antisense compound ~~comprises~~ is complementary to at least an 8-nucleobase portion of nucleotides 562 to 648; 659 to 688; or 1194 to 1277 of SEQ ID NO. 1; or nucleotides 3722 to 3747 of SEQ ID NO 127.

35-40. (canceled).

41. (original) The antisense compound of claim 34 comprising an oligonucleotide.

42. (original) The antisense compound of claim 34 comprising a chimeric oligonucleotide.

43. (previously presented) The antisense compound of claim 34 which is a single-stranded or a double-stranded compound.

44-46. (canceled).

47. (original) The antisense compound of claim 34 which is a chemically modified compound.

48. (original) The antisense compound of claim 34 comprising at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

49. (original) The antisense compound of claim 48 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

50. (original) The antisense compound of claim 34 comprising at least one modified sugar moiety.

51. (original) The antisense compound of claim 50 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl moiety.

52. (original) The antisense compound of claim 34 comprising at least one modified nucleobase.
53. (original) The antisense compound of claim 52 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methyl cytosine.
- 54-57. (canceled).
58. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the antisense compound of claim 34 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
- 59-67. (canceled).